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**JAMES F. GERO**  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
PRESIDENT

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The Honorable Robert M. Gates  
Deputy Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Director Gates:

Thank you for speaking to the Texas Council of the American Electronics Association today. Intelligence is the very basis of our ability to compete globally in the marketplace; while at the same time, it is also the foundation of America's freedom today. Your comments brought home the importance of "intelligence" to each of us and the fact that we must take measures to assure its safeguard.

We all appreciate your insights, they are very relevant to each of our businesses. Again, thank you for speaking to our group.

Sincerely,

James F. Gero  
Texas Council Chairman  
American Electronics Association

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